

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



August 6, 2001

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-66-01

TO: ALL-COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- ☒ [X] State Law Change
- ☐ [] Federal Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ [] Court Order or Settlement Agreement
- ☐ [] Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- ☐ [] Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CALIFORNIA VETERANS CASH
BENEFIT PROGRAM

REFERENCE: WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTION 12400.

The purpose of this All-County Information Notice is to inform counties of the implementation of the new California Veterans Cash Benefit (CVCB) program.

BACKGROUND

Assembly Bill 1978 (Chapter 143, Statutes of 2000) added a provision under which certain Filipino World War II veterans could become eligible for a State-funded benefit if they returned to the Philippines to live. The statute also required the State to seek an agreement with the federal government to administer the CVCB program in conjunction with the federal Special Veterans Benefit (SVB) program that is authorized under Title VIII of the Social Security Act and administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA).

IMPLEMENTATION AND ELIGIBILITY

A new federal law was needed to allow SSA to administer this new State program. That federal law became effective when the President signed it on December 21, 2000. The State and SSA recently signed an agreement under which SSA is responsible for all administrative activities, including taking applications, determining eligibility, and issuing CVCB payments. Counties should refer any person inquiring about this benefit to his or her local SSA office. The SSA began issuing payments to eligible individuals (who are already receiving the federal SVB payment in the Philippines) in late July 2001.

To be eligible for the CVCB program, an individual must:

- Have been eligible for California's State Supplementary Payment in December 1999. (This would have been included in the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) program payments made by SSA), and
- Have been a member of the military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines who was in the service of the United States during World War II, and
- Be eligible, for the same period, to receive a federal Title VIII Special Veterans Benefit, and
- Reside in the Republic of the Philippines.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact your policy analyst in the Adult Programs Systems and Fiscal Bureau at (916) 229-4582.

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By
Donna L. Mandelstam on 8/2/01***

DONNA L. MANDELSTAM
Deputy Director
Disability and Adult Programs Branch